

the floor for the remainder of the debate on S. 1637, the JOBS Act: Shannon Augare, Jane Bergeson, Simon Chabel, Tyson Hill, Jeremy Seidlitz, Trace Thaxton, Steve Beasley, Justin Bonsey, Jodi George, Scott Landes, Pascal Niedermann, Matt Stokes, and Chris Knopes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent Sara Hagigh of Senator LIEBERMAN's staff have privilege of the floor during debate of S. 1637.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TROOP TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 2057 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant journal clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2057) to require the Secretary of Defense to reimburse members of the United States Armed Forces for certain transportation expenses incurred by the members in connection with leave under the Central Command Rest and Recuperation Leave Program before the program was expanded to include domestic travel.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2057) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2057

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION COSTS INCURRED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES ON REST AND RECUPERATION LEAVE.

The Secretary of Defense shall reimburse a member of the United States Armed Forces for transportation expenses incurred by such member for one round trip by such member between two locations within the United States in connection with leave taken under the Central Command Rest and Recuperation Leave Program during the period beginning on September 25, 2003, and ending on December 18, 2003.

#### ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2004

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. Thursday, March 4. I further ask unanimous con-

sent that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period for the transaction of morning business until 10:30 a.m., with the time equally divided in the usual form, with the first half of the time under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee and the second half of the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee; provided, that at 10:30 a.m., the Senate resume consideration of S. 1637, the FSC/ETI bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1637. When the Senate resumes the bill in the morning, the Dodd amendment on outsourcing will be the pending business. It is my expectation that a second-degree amendment will be offered to the Dodd amendment tomorrow morning.

For the remainder of the day, we will continue to work through amendments to the bill. Under the previous order, following the disposition of the Dodd amendment, the Senate will take up an amendment by Senator BUNNING which would accelerate manufacturing sector tax cuts. Senators will be notified when the first vote is scheduled.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order following the remarks of Senator DODD for up to 20 minutes and Senator HATCH for up to 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. DODD. I express my gratitude to my friend from Kentucky for his eloquent description of my less than eloquent remarks. I appreciate that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

#### OUTSOURCING OF AMERICAN JOBS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I may not use all of my 20 minutes. I have been talking at some length this afternoon, although it is my custom to do so. I might point out, for those who are interested, this is not a filibuster. I am prepared to vote on this amendment right now. I was prepared to vote on it an hour and a half ago, but there are those who want to analyze what I am proposing.

I suppose it is more than analysis that is occurring. They are trying to

figure out how to defeat it, and I regret that because I do not think it is complicated. I think it is straightforward. I think it makes sense.

I would not be offering this if this was not a problem sweeping across the country. Concerns are being expressed everywhere by Americans of varying incomes and positions. I know in my own State I have had meetings with people I could not put in the same town or county together a year ago who are coming to us now and saying, would you please do something here. I am talking about my chambers of commerce.

I had a meeting last week at a Teamsters Local that included the chambers of commerce, the Manufacturers Association, the International Association of Machinists and Teamsters. I do not need to remind the Chair what a unique circumstance that is when a crowd like that gets together—by the way, all asking me to do the same thing.

They were not just asking me but asking us what we were going to do, because they have watched the alarming decline of manufacturing jobs in the country, and it seems to be accelerating at a dramatic pace.

Also the problem they foresee, and I agree with them on this outsourcing of jobs, which is very appealing, and I understand it from a corporate standpoint, when one sees their competitors, neighbors, and businesses are outsourcing and cutting their budgets by huge amounts because they can hire someone for \$7 a day or \$2 an hour, as opposed to paying them \$40,000, \$50,000 or \$60,000 a year, then the lure is remarkable.

As we know, in fact, the Indian government is providing tremendous incentives to lure call centers, providing corporations with tax exemptions and building western-style technology parks fitted with telecom infrastructures.

What are we doing? Are we doing anything to try and compete with that or are we just saying that is the way the world is and we better get used to it because that is what is going to happen for the foreseeable future, and maybe something will come along that will all of a sudden fill this vacuum, that will restore these manufacturing jobs or information technology and the like?

I can only hope that would be the case because in the absence of doing anything else, we are going to find a continuing decline in this area.

I worry about this from the standpoint of national security. In my State, I have over 5,000 small manufacturers. I have major corporations as well. I probably have more large Fortune 500 corporations in my State than any other State in the country on a per-capita basis, given the size of my State. My State is the home of major corporations. Many of them are major defense contractors, and those 5,000 small manufacturers in many cases are